Release Notes
IFPS14
(New Functionality)
July 31, 2003

2.0 Introduction

This section of the Release Notes provides a high level description of the new features available in IFPS14. More details on some of these new features are available in the IFPS14 User's Guide at -

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mdl/icwf/user_guide_ifps14/

Once there, first click on the 'New Features for IFPS14' and then click on the 'What's New' entries in the Table of Contents.

2.1 Featured Changes

a. **New Weather Types:** Both MDL and FSL worked to make the following new weather types available in IFPS:

- Freezing Fog (ZF)
- Ice Crystals (IC)
- Ice Fog (IF)
- Volcanic Ash (VA)
- Waterspouts (WP)

b. **Ice Pack Phraseology in Marine Forecasts:** Within IFPS, a forecaster may now define ice coverage grids. These grids are summarized and used to differentiate between a Small Craft Advisory and a Brisk Wind Advisory. The criteria for automatically inserting headlines for these hazards is configurable.

c. **Change ID for Frequent Gusts to Anything but FG:** Within IFPS, the two letter identifiers for fog and frequent gusts was FG. To eliminate this ambiguity, MDL changed the two letter identifier for frequent gusts to WG.

d. **Get Grid Configuration from ifpServer:** MDL changed any remaining IFPS applications from dependence on a file based scheme used to determine the configuration of the local grid to a scheme that allows these applications to query this information from the ifpServer. In other words, the ifps_env.ccc file now includes all of the information needed from the icwf_site.ccc file.

e. **The Number of Periods in Temp/PoP Table are Configurable:** The ZFP Temp/PoP table now includes additional periods to facilitate a wider range of ZFP Temp/Pop configurability**.**

f. **Service Backup Supports Export of Digital Databases:** IFPS now has Service Backup - Phase II digital database ***export capability***. This capability allows IFPS to ***export*** sites' Official digital database ***to*** the Central Server in support of "hot service backup".

NOTE: Presently, Phase II: Service Backup **should only be attempted with another IFPS14 site** (i.e., Phase II**:** Service Backup is not presently backward compatible).

g. **Service Backup Supports Import of Digital Databases:** IFPS now has Service Backup - Phase II digital database ***import capability***. This capability allows IFPS to ***import*** sites' Official digital database ***from*** the Central Server in support of "hot service backup".

NOTE: Presently, Phase II: Service Backup **should only be attempted with another IFPS14 site** (i.e., Phase II**:** Service Backup is not presently backward compatible).

h. **Edit Static Local Effects:** IFPS can automatically unload static Local Effects (LE) from grids. Additionally, should forecasters wish to

use LE information created from previous forecasts, the LE framework may now be preserved from cycle to cycle to obviate forecasters having to recreate the LE information.

i. **The 'prepare_grib2' application now handles Mercator, Polar Stereographic, and Lat/Lon Projections:** In addition to encoding Lambert Conformal grids, the 'prepare_grib2' application now also encodes Mercator, Polar Stereographic, and Lat/Lon grid projections for OCONUS AWIPS sites.

j. **Floating Elements Within NDFD:** MDL modified the GRIB2 encoder to handle floating elements (e.g., 6 HR Floating PoP) available in the NDFD.

k. **GFE:** Visit the GFE Change Notes web page at the URL below for descriptions and details on GFE enhancements included in IFPS14.

a. http://www-md.fsl.noaa.gov/eft/ifps14doc/onlinehelp/CHANGES_BUGS_FIXES_HIGHLIGHTS.html